

**STATE TRAUMA ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MINUTES**  
**April 20, 2006**  
**150 North 18<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Conference Room 540-A**

**Members Present:**

Ben Bobrow (Chairman)	Robert Galey
Roy Ryals	Philip Johnson
Stewart Hamilton	Rich Thacher
Scott Petersen	Ritch Steven
Bill Ashland	Charles Frank Allen
John Porter	Mark Venuti
Kelly Silberschlag	

**Members Absent:**

Michele Ziemba  
Jim Flaherty  
David Leinenveber  
Stuart Alt  
Anslem Roanhorse  
Debbie Johnston

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Bentley Bobrow, Chairman, called the regular meeting of the State Trauma Advisory Board to order at 9:10 a.m. A quorum was present.

**II. DISCUSSION and Action on January 19, 2006 Minutes**

A motion was made by Mark Venuti and seconded by Dr. Stewart Hamilton to approve the minutes of January 19, 2006. **Motion carried.**

**III. REPORTS:**

**A. Report from the Office of the Director**

**1. Discussion on Status of Bureau of Emergency Medical Services, Public Health Preparedness Services, Division of Public Health Services, and Department of Health Services**

- Niki O’Keeffe, Assistant Director, reported the following:
  - The Director, Susan Gerard was confirmed on Wednesday by the Senate
  - Everyone needs to carefully look at e-mails regarding the budget because the Legislature will be looking at the budget shortly
  - There have been many calls about whether or not children should be immunized so we may need EMS Partners to send e-mails of support to the Legislature

**B. Report from Acting Bureau Chief:**

**1. Status of New Bureau Chief**

- William Humble, Deputy Assistant Director and Acting Bureau Chief, reported the following:
  - Reported that the Bureau Chief position should be filled by the end of April
  - There are two very well qualified candidates for the position

**2. Announcement of Hospital Overcrowding and Diversion Workgroups**

- On March 10, 2006 the Director held a meeting on hospital overcrowding and diversion issues. The purpose was to identify problems and organize work groups to develop and implement strategies to improve emergency care efficiency with a goal of maximizing patient care.

- A letter has gone out to the people who have signed up on the Bureau's website from the Director stating that the most acute problems that we are aware of are from the central region in terms of hospital overcrowding but that others are welcome
- Scott Peterson commented that the issue of hospital diversion has been an ongoing issue of the Arizona Emergency Medical Services (AEMS) Region for the last ten years. They have had an ongoing diversion committee for at least 5 years.
- Marcia Barry stated the Director, Susan Gerard has already called Good Samaritan to ask to attend the next meeting of the Diversion Task Force.
- Ritch Steven asked how this group can get this information out in a public way. Does this board have a public relations role?
- Will Humble stated that EMS Week will be held the week of May 14<sup>th</sup> and this would be a good way to get the information out. He will talk to the Public Relations Officer.
- John Porter recommended that someone from Tucson be on the Hospital Diversion workgroup.
- Will Humble stated that the Department does not want to micro-manage the diversion issue.
- The goal is to have the groups work on this over the summer and finish by the cold and flu season to try and have a system in place.

**C. Report from the Chairman**

**1. Introduction of new STAB Membership**

- Dennis Shelby resigned from the category of Representative from Statewide Rehabilitation Facility.
- Kelly Silberschlag was appointed by the Director on February 10, 2006 to serve on STAB for the category of Statewide Rehabilitation Facility.
- On February 10, 2006 the Director reappointed Stewart Hamilton, Jeff Farkas, Debbie Johnston, Stuart Alt, and Mark Venuti

**D. Report from the Bureau of Public Health Statistics, Office of Health Registries:**

**1. Update on Trauma Registry, Standardization and Reports**

**a. Data Dictionary**

- This list was e-mailed out to all the trauma registry staff. This contains all the required data elements.

**b. Sample Manual**

- Currently working on user manual and the draft should be ready within the next month.

**c. Conversion Status Update**

- Both vendors have expressed that it would be easier to do Phase I and Phase II together
- It will take a little longer to get the reports out but once we do it, we'll have all the data elements in them.
- Anita Ray stated that the goal is to have every hospital with the updated picklist with the data converted by mid May.

- The goal is to have data by June 1, 2006.
- Scott Petersen expressed frustration over how long it is taking to get data from the registry. Questioning why has it taken so long to get data? St. Joseph's hospital has been collecting for years.
- Georgia Yee stated that when the Trauma Registry received the data it had not been downloaded. The first concern was to have reliable data.
- John Porter stated that determining how far the data will go back will be brought up at the AZTQ Committee meeting today following the STAB Meeting today.
- The goal is to have data using the standard data elements as determined at the last STAB meeting, by the next STAB meeting on September 21, 2006.

#### **IV. ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES ITEMS**

##### **A. Update/Discussion on 2005 Statewide EMS & Trauma System Assessment – Public Record**

David Harden reported the following:

- The Attorney General's Office has issued an internal opinion stating that the individual and aggregate responses by providers to assessment questions are public record.
- The assessments were distributed to the four regional councils in mid December 2005. The issue concerning public record or confidentiality of responses caused a delay in assessment completion due to the complexity of the issue.
- All four regions have received assessments and are working with their respective constituents that have not yet completed the assessment. So far more than half of the assessments distributed to providers have been completed and returned to the regional councils.
- BEMS is targeting April 28<sup>th</sup> for the submission of completed assessments. Once all assessments have been received, BEMS will organize the assessments by region and by county within each region. Analysis of the data will then commence.
- Roy Ryals stated the following:
  - It would be beneficial for the state to start blinding the questionnaires in terms of individual responses. He has concern that some of the questions could have potential liability. A number of organizations may not respond in totality because of that aspect of it.
- The question of whether or not the name of the provider is considered public record can be addressed as a specific issue with the Attorney General's Office.

##### **B. Update/Discussion on HRSA – Annual State Trauma Leadership Meeting**

- The State Trauma Leadership Meeting was held in Washington, DC in February 2006. Of the topics presented, the Model Trauma System Planning and Evaluation was of great importance to the attendees. HRSA sent an e-mail announcement to all state trauma managers that provided a website link to where the Model Trauma Planning and

Evaluation guide can be retrieved and printed. There is a copy of the announcement in the agenda packets. As of June 30, 2006 we will receive no money from HRSA unless it gets reinstituted through Congress.

**C. Report on National Association of EMS Officials (NAEMSO) and Trauma**

- Congress has eliminated trauma funding, effectively dissolving the HRSA Trauma Program. The NAEMSO has established a subcommittee to carry forward the Model Trauma Planning efforts. The subcommittee is essentially a Model Trauma Planning continuity effort.

**D. Update/Discussion on Trauma Mini-Grant**

- Vicki Conditt reported that the Notices of Award will be sent by the ADHS Procurement Office tomorrow or early next week.

**E. Report on Navajo Nation Trauma Planning Advisory Committee**

- Over the past two years, the Navajo Nation has considered the need to develop a trauma system to provide essential care for critically injured patients in a frontier setting where unintentional injury is the highest cause of death among their people.
- The president of the Navajo Nation invited Vicki Conditt to serve on the Navajo Nation Trauma Planning Advisory Committee, formed to develop a comprehensive trauma plan for the Navajo Nation. The meeting was scheduled for May 10<sup>th</sup> in Gallup, New Mexico, but the meeting has been postponed indefinitely.
- Arizona 2006-2010 EMS and Trauma System Plan will be an inclusive and comprehensive plan, and thus BEMS has been gathering information for involving the Indian tribes residing in Arizona the planning and development of relevant goals, objectives and tactics of the Plan.

**V. OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. Discussion and Action on HRSA Model EMS and Trauma System**

- Dr. Peterson suggested that we contact the American College of Surgeons to conduct a consultative visit to help develop the State trauma plan. Vicki Conditt stated that BEMS is looking into inviting ACS to conduct just such a system consultation visit in the next fiscal year. There is money in the BEMS trauma budget for a consultative visit, which costs between \$36,000 to \$50,000.
- BEMS is incorporating the Model Trauma System Plan into the 2006-2010 EMS & Trauma System Plan.
- Dave Harden stated that the EMS & Trauma System Plan Goals and Objectives Status Matrix has been revised by replacing explanatory symbols with specific explanatory statements for applicable goals and objectives under the Status column. This was done in response to an action item from the last STAB meeting.

**B. Discussion/Action on STAB Bylaws**

- A motion was made by Scott Peterson seconded by John Porter to change the wording on page 3 first paragraph of the STAB Bylaws to “A quorum is determined by the total membership positions, whether filled or vacant. STAB consists of 20 statutory member positions; 11 members must be present in person or by telephone to constitute a quorum.”

**Motion carried.**

- Question as to whether or not the frequency of the meetings needs to be changed. The Bylaws currently state quarterly for AZTQ and not less than three times a year for STAB.

**C. Discussion/Action on AZTQ Bylaws**

- A motion was made by Scott Petersen and seconded by Mark Venuti to change the wording to read for the STAB Bylaws under meetings to read “The regular meetings of the Committee shall be held at a minimum of four times a year.”
- Scott Petersen accepted a friendly amendment made by Mark Venuti and seconded by John Porter that Article V Section I Meetings of the AZTQ Bylaws be identical to Article V Section I of STAB Bylaws. **Motion carried.**

**Item:** Update AZTQ and STAB Bylaws  
**Follow up:** BEMS Website  
**When:** ASAP  
**Who:** Vicki Conditt

**VI. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. Discussion and Action on Essential Level IV State Designation Criteria – Rapid Infuser System**

- Exhibit I of the state trauma center designation rules include the trauma center standards. Within Standard (E) “Facilities/Resources/Capabilities, provision (5) Emergency Department delineates the resuscitation equipment that trauma centers Level I – IV are to include. One provision is for having a “Rapid Infuser System” as an Essential requirement for all four designation levels.
- The AC trauma center designation standards for Level IV makes the possession of a Rapid Infuser System a “Desirable” requirement for Level IV trauma centers. BEMS is asking STAB whether making the Rapid Infuser System for Level IV trauma centers as a essential requirement was an oversight, since our standards in this instance exceed ACS’s.
- A motion was made by John Porter seconded by Charles Allen to have the criteria, Rapid Infuser System, clarified by Substantive Policy Statement to mean the general term Rapid Infusion System. **Motion carried.**

**B. Discussion and Action on reversing STAB and AZTQ meeting times**

- It was determined that in order to have a formal report for STAB from AZTQ that AZTQ meet before STAB. AZTQ will meet at 8:30 a.m. and STAB will meet at 10:00 a.m.

**Item:** Update Meeting Schedule  
**Follow up:** BEMS website  
**When:** ASAP  
**Who:** Donna Meyer

## **VII. CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

- Ritch Thatcher introduced Sergeant Victor McCraw, Arizona Department of Public Safety, Operations Manager to the Board. He will be overseeing the EMS component of their mission
- Linda Worthy introduced Dr. Chris Saldino, JC Lincoln's new Trauma Medical Director.
- Vicki Conditt stated that the Bureau has received a number of questions regarding the implementation of the verification criteria. We have contacted and invited Dr. Robert Coscia Past President of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma, Verification Committee. We asked him to come out and do a one day training specific to the criteria for verification and designation. The designation criteria almost mirrors ACS criteria. We thought this would be very helpful for the hospitals. Please save the date of July 14<sup>th</sup>. John C. Lincoln North Mountain has graciously offered to host the meeting.
- Stewart Hamilton asked if there was any movement on funding for Level II's and Level III trauma centers? Data is the key factor to present to the Legislature.

## **VIII. SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS**

- Good Samaritan Hospital will be hosting a State Trauma Grand Rounds on May 3, 2006
- Southwest Regional Trauma Conference will be held on August 3 – 4, 2006.
- Golden Hour Golf Tournament to benefit UMCS's trauma center on May 20, 2006 in Tucson and the night before there will be a Roaring 20's Gambling night.

## **IX. NEXT MEETING**

The next STAB meeting will be held on September 21, 2006

## **X. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Approved by: State Trauma Advisory Board

Date: November 2, 2006